

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 10240 131917Z

20

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

OMB-01 SAM-01 /072 W

----- 127736

R 131119Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7099

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 10240

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: PM CONTINUES TO EXPRESS RESENTMENT AT FOREIGN CRITICISM
OF EMERGENCY

REF: NEW DELHI 4538

1. FROM RECENT STATEMENTS MADE IN INDIA AS WELL AS ABROAD, IT IS CLEAR PRIME MINISTER GANDHI CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE HOSTILE FORCES IN THE WEST OPPOSING HER GOVERNMENT, AND THAT IT CURRENTLY SERVES HER INTEREST TO PUBLICIZE THIS FACT. IN KABUL JULY 6 SHE DESCRIBED THESE FORCES (AS SHE HAS DONE SEVERAL TIMES IN RECENT WEEKS) AS THOSE WHICH "HELPED DICTATORSHIPS AND TOTALITARIAN REGIMES IN ASIA, AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA", AND A FEW DAYS EARLIER IN BERLIN SHE EXPLAINED THAT THESE FORCES "HAVE BEEN AGAINST US SINCE THE VERY BEGIN-
ING....AGAINST OUR FREEDOM STRIGGLE....AGAINST OUR CONCEPT OF PLANNING....", ETC. IN AN INTERVIEW CARRIED HERE JUNE 26 SHE REVIVED AN EARLIER FORMULA TO DECRY HER ENEMIES "PERSISTENT EFFORTS TO DESTABILIZE GOVERNMENTS IN ASIA, AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA AND TO MALIGN, EVEN ASSASSINATE LEADERS WHO SHOW INDEPENDENCE". ON JUNE 18 SHE FLATLY DECLARED THAT SUB-
VERSION ENCOURAGED FROM THE OUTSIDE IS INCREASING N INDIA
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NEW DE 10240 131917Z

AND REPRESENTS A GREATER THREAT THAN ACTUAL AGGRESSION

(NEW DELHI 9458).

2. AS EVIDENCE OF THE EXISTENCE OF HOSTILE FORCES POISED AGAINST INDIA, THE PRIME MINISTER FREQUENTLY POINTS TO THE ANTI-INDIAN PRESS CRITICISM IN THE WEST, THE "ANTI-INDIAN MALADY", AS SHE CALLS IT. MOST RECENTLY AT THE OPENING OF THE NON-ALIGNED PRESS POOL CONFERENCE IN DELHI, JULY 8, SHE TERMED "DELIBERATE" THE EFFORTS OF THE MEDIA OF POWERFUL COUNTRIES TO DEPICT FORMER COLONIAL STATES AS "INEPT AND CORRUPT", AND CRITICIZED THE FOREIGN PRESS FOR DENIGRATING AND FALSIFYING IN EVERY WAY FOREIGN LEADERS "WHO UPHOLD THEIR NATIONAL INTERESTS AND RESIST THE BLANDISHMENTS OF MNCs". SHE APPEARS TO BELIEVE SUCH CRITICISM IS OFFICIALLY INSPIRED OR AT LEAST ENCOURAGED, ALTHOUGH SHE CAREFULLY LEAVES OBSCURE THE PRECISE MAKE-UP OF THE FORCES BEHIND IT. IN AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED HERE JULY 2, SHE EXPRESSED HER OPINION THAT "MUCH OF THE (U.S.) PRESS IS... CONTROLLED...AND...IN THE HANDS OF CERTAIN PEOPLE" (NEW DELHI 9794). SHE VIEWS THE WESTERN CRITICISM AS "A HANGOVER OF COLONIALISM AND RACIALISM", AND SAYS IT ARISES FROM DEEPLY SEATED RESENT IN THE WEST AT THE SUCCESS OF INDIA'S POLICIES, BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC, FROM EVEN BEFORE INDEPENDENCE.

3. THE PRIME MINISTER'S RECENT COMMENTS ON MALIGN ANTI-INDIAN FORCES ABROAD HAVE NATURALLY INSPIRED HER LIEUTENANTS TO EVEN BOLDER PRONOUNCEMENTS. FOREMOST CONGRESS PARTY PRESIDENT, NOW MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS, S.D. SHARMA, TOLD AN EMERGENCY ANNIVERSARY GATHERING IN DELHI JUNE 25 THAT HE HAD NO DOUBT THE CIA WAS BEHIND THE ANTI-NATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF SOME OPPOSITION PARTIES (NATYBNAL HERALD, JUNE 26). THE CURRENT CONGRESS PRESIDENT BAROOAH TOLD ALL-INDIAN RADIO A DAY LATER THAT "SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE HAS COME TO LIGHT THAT... OUTSIDE FORCES WERE ENCOURAGING DISRUPTION AND DESTABILIZATION SO THAT INDIA'S INFLUENCE WHICH WORKS ALL OVER THE WORLD FOR FREEDOM MAY BE WEAKENED". AND IN ORISSA, CHIEF MINISTER SATPATHY TOLD A RALLY JULY 2 THAT "FOREIGN MONEY" WAS ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS FOR THE CHAOS AND DISORDER IN INDIA BEFORE THE EMERGENCY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NEW DE 10240 131917Z

4. LOOKING AT THE OVERALL PATTERN OF SUCH CRITICISM IN THE PAST MONTHS, WE DETECT A MILD INCREASE JUST IN RECENT WEEKS. SOME OF THIS COMMENT IS PROBABLY DUE SIMPLY TO THE CELEBRATION OF THE JUNE 26 EMERGENCY ANNIVERSARY, AND THE NEED TO JUSTIFY ITS PROLONGATION INTO A SECOND YEAR. SEVERAL OF THE COMMENTS NOTED ABOVE IN FACT CAME AT ANNIVERSARY MEETINGS. HOWEVER, THE RETORTS OF THE PRIME MINISTER DELIVERED AS FAR AFIELD AS BERLIN AND KABUL ARE PROBABLY

AS MUCH A MEASURE OF HER OWN ANGER AT RECENT SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENTS HERE AS OF HER ABIDING SENSE OF INSECURITY OR SHORT-TERM POLITICAL MANEUVERING. WE BELIEVE SHE MAY WANT TO FLAG TO THE WEST THE FRUSTRATION NOW FELT HERE BECAUSE OF PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE CANADIAN DECISION TO BREAK OFF NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH INDIA, THE DELAYS AND UNCERTAINTY SURROUNDING THE DELIVERY OF ENRICHED URANIUM FROM THE UNITED STATES, AND THE HOLDING OF HEARINGS IN WASHINGTON ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION INDIA.

5. WE ARE POUCHING TO NEA/INS, JULY 9, A COPY OF THE MORE NOTABLE RECENT ANTI-WEST STATEMENTS BY THE PRIME MINISTER AND OTHER CONGRESS PARTY AND GOI OFFICIALS.
SAXBE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONAL SECURITY, PRESS CONFERENCES, EMERGENCY PLANNING, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE10240
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760270-0558
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760764/aaaaceiy.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 NEW DELHI 4538
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PM CONTINUES TO EXPRESS RESENTMENT AT FOREIGN CRITICISM OF EMERGENCY
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, IN, (GANDHI, INDIRA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006